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GENERAL DIRECTORY.

For the information of all we will keep the following Directory standing awhile.

MISSISSIPPI CONVENTION.

President—W. H. Hardy, Meridian, Miss.
Vice-President—E. A. J. Miller, Port Gibson, Miss.
Recording Secretary—J. T. Back, Jackson, Miss.
Corresponding Secretary—W. T. Ralston, Ray, Miss.
Treasurer—J. B. Gamble, Clinton, Miss.
Mississippi.
Secretary of Foreign Missions—Dr. H. B. Whitfield, Clinton, Miss.
State Missions—E. M. T. White, Corresponding Secretary of the Board, Clinton, Miss.
SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—E. J. P. Boyce, Louisville, Ky.

GENERAL.

Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention—E. M. T. White, Meridian, Miss.; H. A. A. Tappan, Richmond, Va.; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—E. J. P. Boyce, Louisville, Ky.

Seventh Annual Report of the State Mission Board of the Mississippi Baptist State Convention.

At the beginning of the Convention for just closed, our State was threatened with another visitation of the pestilence which, during the previous year, had brought sickness, death and sorrow to the homes of so many of our people.

In consequence of the appearance of yellow fever at Memphis early in the month of July, it was deemed imprudent to undertake to hold a regular session of the Convention, and hence occurred an indefinite postponement. With the recollection, fresh in our minds, of the dreadful ravages of the epidemic of the year before, fear and apprehension took the minds of our people. For several weeks nothing was done. The prospect before our Board, as well before our denominational authorities, was gloomy indeed.

But a gracious and all-wise and omnipotent God was pleased to serve our State from another opportunity.

At the opening of the Convention, the work of the Convention was carried on without serious interruption. Additional missionaries were appointed, and new and important mission fields entered. The work of the Board has been prosecuted with vigor and success, and we have just closed the most prosperous year's work since the organization of our present plan of mission labor. We have employed more missionaries, and have accomplished a much larger amount of work than during any former year, and very nearly twice as much money has been collected as was collected the year previous.

A much larger number of our brethren and sisters have become interested in the work of State missions, more churches have made contributions to the Board, and the average of these contributions has been larger than ever before. Forty-two associations, which hitherto had shown no practical interest in our work, have been visited; contributions have been received from them, and they have pledged the Board their hearty cooperation.

In every part of our territory we see signs of growth, development and encouragement.

The number of laborers under the appointment of the Board during the last year has been twenty-five. The number now engaged is twenty-two. These twenty-five brethren were placed as follows: Twenty in churches, three districts and one general evangelist, and one corresponding secretary.

Eight of these missionaries and evangelists have been in the service of the Board the entire year, while others have labored, thus far, only a part of the year.

These other appointments have been made by missionary at Natchez, evangelists in the Bottom, and a missionary to the colored people, a special duty it is to hold in the State for the colored Baptist ministry of the State. The brethren called by the Board to these three important fields have not entered upon their work. It is hoped, however, they will do so at an early day.

The Board likewise resolved to put another general evangelist in the field. This was done to meet the increasing demand of the churches for this kind of work. A man who was suitable and available has not yet been found.

THE BAPTIST RECORD.

M. T. MARTIN,
Publisher and Proprietor.

Integrity, and Fidelity to the Cause of Christ.

Terms, \$2.00 Per Annum.
Payable in Advance.

VOL. 4.

JACKSON, MISS., THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1880.

NO. 28.

summary of our work for the year:

ANNUAL REPORT.

Items of Personal Work, 1880.

No. of Missionaries	25
Days of Actual Service	1,010
Number of miles traveled	21,294
Number of stations	60
Number of persons baptized	1,050
Church prayer meetings attended	999
Families visited for religious purpose	3,338
Number of persons inquired	300
Restored to church fellowship	169
Number of churches organized	32
Sunday-schools organized	8
Officers, teachers & scholars in same	251
Total number of Sunday-schools	36
Officers, teachers & scholars in same	1,289
Sunday-school tracts delivered	217
Number of pages of tracts distributed	1,413
Subscribers obtained for Record	212
Baptist families without family altar	1
No. of families supplied with the Bible	1
Amount pledged on "Collection Book"	1
Amount collected on "Collection Book"	1
Money collected for personal service	1
No. of houses of worship built	2
No. of houses of worship repaired	1

These missionaries have been stationed on the coast, in New Orleans, Port Gibson, Vicksburg, Warren county, Yazoo City, Kosciusko, Wisconsin, Sardis, Batesville, Corinth, Mississippi Bottom, and in the Holochito Association, Eld. D. L. Purser, general evangelist, has held meetings with the churches at Oxyka, McCoub City, Hazlehurst, Byram, Canton, Goodman, Kosciusko, Grenada, Cold Water, Water Valley, Corinth, Baldwin, Tupelo, West Point, Starkville and Tangipahoa.

Eld. H. L. Finley has labored in the Cold Water, Yalobusha, Oxford, Calhoun and Zion Associations. Eld. L. E. Hall has labored in the Bethlehem, Choctaw and Louisville Associations. Eld. O. D. Bowen has labored in the Chickasaw, Liberty, Ebenezer and Gulf Coast Associations.

It is but just to say that no class of our ministry has worked more faithfully or laboriously than have the evangelists of this Board. Their work is of a peculiarly hard character. Most all their time is spent away from their families; they are exposed to all kinds of weather, and are preaching and visiting daily from house to house; and they are doing good work. Many weak and pastoral churches have been greatly strengthened and encouraged by the visits, prayers and sermons of these faithful men. They have also visited and preached in regions of superstition, where the greatest is seldom, if ever, seen.

They have been, and are, open before us. Many feeble and struggling churches, located at important centers of influence, are appealing to this Board for help. A little timely aid extended these churches will enable them to become, not only self-sustaining, but efficient helpers to the cause of Christ elsewhere.

To meet the obligations of the Board, already incurred, for the coming conventional year, will require very nearly \$10,000. But other appointments ought to be made; yes, must be made, if we prosecute this work with the energy and efficiency that its magnitude and importance demand. Fully \$15,000 should be raised for State Missions the next year. It could easily be done by the Baptists of Mississippi and East Louisiana. That amount would be only an average of less than twenty-five cents for each of our members.

But the Board cannot raise \$15,000, nor \$10,000 during the next year, unless we can enlist more of our pastors in the work of raising money for State Missions. The Corresponding Secretary cannot travel more—he ought to travel less than he has done for the past six years. This work of collecting money for missions must be attended to more and more by the churches and pastors themselves. We can never do the grand work in Mississippi which God has given us to do, until our pastors come more and more to realize that the raising of money from their churches for the spread of the gospel is a essential part of their ministerial and pastoral work; that duty to Christ, sympathy and love for lost sinners, and the spiritual interests of their own people, alike demand they should do this.

We therefore close this Report with the earnest, importunate plea to all our pastors, who are identified with this Convention, and who believe in this great work of home evangelization, that they come up heartily to the help of the Board. See to it, dear brethren, that every church to which you minister, and every member belonging to those churches, has the claims of State Missions presented to them. Urge one and all to contribute, as the Lord has prospered them, to the furtherance of the gospel within the territory of this Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
J. L. JOHNSON, Pres't.

T. J. WALKE, Cor. Sec'y.

The Board desires to call the attention of the Convention to the

summary of our work for the year:

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pressing need of a more vigorous prosecution of the Sunday-school work among our churches. Perhaps in no other department of christian labor are the great majority of our churches more deficient than in the establishment and maintenance of Sunday-schools. We would, therefore, urge upon all our churches the importance of the Sunday-school as an efficient instrumentality for the development of the intelligence, zeal, activity, and liberality of their membership, as well as the conversion of souls.

The Board likewise would suggest to the Convention the propriety of the employment of a thoroughly competent man to labor especially as a State Sunday-school missionary. The American Baptist Publication Society to aid in paying the salary of such a missionary.

Shall such a man be engaged, and if so, by whom shall the appointment be made? Shall the State Mission Board undertake this work, or shall another Board be organized? And shall we accept of help from the Society at Philadelphia? These are questions which the Convention must answer.

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

The expenses of our work for the year have been \$7,213.34. The collections from the first day of July 1879 to the 16th of July 1880 have amounted to \$6,407.01. We had a balance left over from last year amounting to \$214.12. This makes our total receipts \$6,621.03.

This statement shows that our appropriations have been \$591.31 in excess of our receipts. We earnestly hope this deficit may be made up before the Convention adjourns. If this is done, we can begin the new year under very favorable auspices.

THE FUTURE OF OUR WORK.

Let what has been said of the past of our work suffice. We now turn to the future. We can take no backward steps. We have been prosecuting our State Mission work for six years, and, while much has been done, we have scarcely made a beginning. The demand for more laborers is pressing upon us, and that demand we must heed. We

before us. Many feeble and struggling churches, located at important centers of influence, are appealing to this Board for help. A little timely aid extended these churches will enable them to become, not only self-sustaining, but efficient helpers to the cause of Christ elsewhere.

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Report Made in Italy.

Italy is a densely populated country; and though but little more than twice as large as the State of Mississippi, it has over 26,000,000 inhabitants, nearly two-thirds as many as the whole United States. It has also a number of flourishing and populous cities: Rome, with 240,000 inhabitants; Naples, with 448,000; Milan, with 200,000; Venice, with 138,000; Bologna, with 115,000; Bari, with 75,000, and many other towns and villages of from 10,000 inhabitants upwards.

COUNTRY AND CLIMATE.

Italy is a country well watered, highly cultivated, and surpassingly beautiful; its climate healthy and bracing, and its people of a high moral and intellectual character.

GOVERNMENT.

The government until recently was under the control of the Roman Pontiff, religious liberty was denied and the pure gospel kept away by the violence and the sword. But in 1870 Victor Emmanuel entered Rome with a conquering army, put an end to the temporal power of the Pope, and proclaimed toleration for all religions.

And now the Baptist Convention South is recognized in Italy, and allowed to own a house of worship in the very heart of Rome.

RELIGION.

The religion of Italy is the Roman Catholic, nominally called christian. But so corrupt and debased has this religion become, that it is really no better than heathenism; and the people under it are but little better off, as regards salvation, than the pagans of Hindostan.

THE PEOPLE ACCESSIBLE TO THE GOSPEL.

The priests indeed are hostile and bitter, and would, if they could, still oppose the gospel with fire and sword; but the common people seem ready to receive the Word of God; this is evident by the rapidly with which evangelical churches are springing up throughout the land. It has been but few years since Italy was opened to the gospel, and now the Free Italian Church has thirty-three churches, thirty outstations, and three hundred communicants.

This mission was begun in 1871, one year after Victor Emmanuel opened the gates of Rome. Dr. W. N. Cote was appointed to take charge of the mission, and located at Rome.

The mission seemed to prosper at first, beginning with some twelve members and quickly rising to eighteen. But in a year or two it went down and seemed to come to nothing.

G. B. TAYLOR APPOINTED.

Dr. Cote and some others were removed, and Rev. G. B. Taylor, in 1873, appointed to the care of the Italian mission. The mission seemed to take new life and to prosper from this time.

MISSION STATIONS.

There have been established at many of the principal cities, to-wit: Rome, Venice, Naples, Milan, Bologna and Bari; also at Modena, Barletta, Torre Pellice, Carpi, and at Cagliari, the capital of the island of Sardinia.

CHURCH MEMBERS AND EVANGELISTS.

There are small companies of believers at these places—one hundred and thirty-four, ~~about~~ ^{more} than 100, and they are provided over by nine evangelists, to-wit: Cote, at Rome; Pachetta, at Milan; Bolondi, at Venice; Basile, at Bologna; Modena; Volpi, at Bari and Barletta; Colombo, at Naples; Romano, at Torre Pellice; Count Torre, at Carpi; and Costa, at Cagliari.

ALL NATIVE ITALIANS.

Evangelists, as they are called, are all natives of the country where they labor. This fact will remind us of the way the Swedish and German missions, probably the most successful missions in the world, have been carried on by our Northern brethren; and goes to show that the most effectual way to evangelize any nation is to raise up a native ministry in that country, and make use of them for preaching the gospel to their own people. With one or two exceptions the missionaries and assistants in Germany are all Germans, in Sweden are all Swedes, and in Italy are all Italians.

ROME CHAPTER.

The Southern Board have, from the beginning of their mission in Italy, felt the need of a permanent house of worship and dwelling for their missionaries in the city of Rome. Such a building has been secured at a cost of \$34,800, and is now the property of the Southern Baptist

Convention. This amount has been taken from the general fund; but is a special contribution for the purpose, and of several thousand dollars was generously given by the Baptists of North and of England. This is in the very midst of Rome, one of the great thoroughfares of Italy, and furnishes homes for Taylor and Signor Cote and families, besides all needed elements for the mission.

BAPTISTNESS OF ITALY AS A MISSION FIELD.

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Sketches of, and Observations on, a Horse-back Trip from Tuscan City to Okoloma, Miss.

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from a protracted drought, the first I had met with, or heard from, and from the most reliable information I could get, the country affected by it is of very limited extent.

Monday was without incident worth notice, except that I took a wrong road at starting, this time the result of my own inattention; and instead of getting into the old Greensborough and Houston road, went by the way of Hohenlinden and Atlanta, all the way through a parol country. I do not know how many miles I missed my way, but I failed seven miles of reaching Houston. I could have gone several miles further, but I was in the edge of the "flat woods," and having been told that I would see no more of the great thoroughfares of Italy, I stopped at a house near the road.

Letter from Senatobia.

Dear Bro. Gambrell—After an absence of some weeks, attending our Convention, assisting our good brother, Prof. Wharton, in a fine meeting at Dry Creek, and visiting loved ones in Central Mississippi, I am very glad to return to my much loved field of labor.

My next best friend, my wife, yet complains of the heat, and now they say I must remain at home awhile. What am I to do? I had been awaiting my return a half dozen written invitations to assist in meetings, and I have only been at home a few days and five brethren from as many neighboring churches, have called to see if I could not help their pastor a few days. My best counselor says I do not know how to say no; but my health and the demand of my churches have compelled me at this time to decide all these invitations to engage in evangelistic work, which, under other circumstances, I should gladly have accepted.

I have been thus frequently called on to help in meetings, because of the scarcity of active ministers up in this part of the State.

The churches are nearly all holding their annual meetings, but I have not heard, as yet, any very cheering news from them. I suppose the pastors will make the usual report to the Record, and I shall not particularize.

Many of the people of Senatobia and of Cold Water spend their summers at the springs, or "on the mountains," but we have a larger attendance on preaching from the country, in the summer, and our congregations continue good. The prospects for our cause here are brighter now than at any time in the history of our church. The congregations are good; we have an interesting prayer-meeting, and the best Sunday-school we have ever had. We hope to be able ere long to build a nice brick house of worship up in town, and then to turn our present house to good account by converting it into a school property, and having in it a high school for girls. The Lord seems to have inclined the heart of a good brother, who is able, to help us make these improvements for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

We also hope to have the co-operation soon, of some good brethren and sisters who have of late bought property in and around our town, and propose to make this their future home.

We had a happy prayer-meeting last night. The Lord was with us. We expect to begin a series of meetings soon. Pray for us, that God may graciously bless our church.

I have only been to Cold Water one day, but the brethren gave me a very kind welcome back among them; and the deacons, ever thoughtful of their pastor, had made ample provision for "creature comfort" ere his return. Brother Joseph Solomon, one of the members of this church, recently had the sad misfortune to lose, by fire, his residence and nearly all his effects.

I am told that our brethren of the Methodist and of the Campbellite persuasions, are preparing to have a public debate in Cold Water, and that the champions of state rights are to be the rev. Thos. Caskey. Some one has been wicked enough to suggest that "they are theological Tom-cats"; but their friends say, in the coming debate, it will be Greek meeting Greek, or steel cutting steel. May the Lord keep them from injuring the cause of truth.

I hear of a number of boys who are thinking of going to Mississippi College in the fall—but I close lest my letter should grow too large for a busy editor.

Yours fraternally,
E. E. K.

Senatobia, Miss., August, 1880.

The Matchless Evil.

Dear Record—I noticed in your issue of August 6th that an *Inquirer* from this place asks you a few questions in regard to our country being a christian country, and why it is that we permit those execrable trains to run on Sunday. I would have been glad had he asked a few more questions, especially in regard to selling whiskey by the retail. It is a fact that no christian will deny, that it is one of the greatest curses

that is practiced in our land. Early this morning a gentleman, in appearance, rode up to my place and spoke very politely; we passed compliments, and he made some remarks about my work, at the same time drawing from his pocket a paper, he informed me he had a petition he would like for me to sign. I asked what was the nature of the petition. He said it was to retail whiskey. Well sir, I was nearly dumb-founded, this being the first time in life that I ever saw such a document was presented to me, and coming from such an unexpected source. I told him very politely I could not sign such a paper. He then made some inquiries about an old colored man that lives on my place; I told him he was away on some business, and went on his way. I think, not joking, I believe the law requires the name of all those who sign such petitions to be published in some county paper, and to remain there for thirty days. I do hope we will not see any of our brother Baptists names on that list.

I think any Baptist that would sign such a paper as that has missed the mark, so far as religion is concerned. When he joins the church he makes an open confession that he loves God and his people, and wishes to walk in the footsteps of Christ. Wonder if he has ever stopped and thought would Christ, when here on earth, have used his influence in establishing a doggery. May the time soon come when every Baptist church will make it a law to exclude any member who would be instrumental in establishing such things. They have filled our country with shame and sorrow, and our State prisons with convicts. Some of the brightest intellects that ever figured on the pages of history have fallen victims to this monster evil. Will not the christians of Mississippi, irrespective of denomination, rise as one man and with one fell stroke sweep from our land this great evil?

Give us a country where the Sabbath day will be kept holy and no one compelled to work. There are men on our railroads who are compelled to work on Sabbath days or lose their position. Will not some of our leading christians put the ball in motion? All we need is a move in the right direction, and I know our efforts will be crowned with success.

Yours fraternally,
E. W. CUTLER.

Oxyka, Miss., Aug. 11, 1880.

Since writing the above there has been a counter petition presented to me, and it did my heart good to sign it, and to see our noble boys making such efforts to keep the monster evil from our vicinity.

Yours,
R. W. CUTLER.

More Fog.

For some time, like Eld. Hewlett, I have been in a fog; and it is becoming so dense that I am beginning to think seriously about some way to get out of it.

Several things have caused this fog, but I shall notice only one here. At the last meeting of the Bogue Chitto Association, in accordance with a resolution, a committee of five was appointed, including myself, styled the "Temperance Committee," whose duty it should be to visit the churches of that Association and lecture or preach against intemperance; or, as I take it, to preach against drunkenness. Well, I have visited and preached at five churches on the subject, taking each time this text: "Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober."—1 Thes. v. 6. I have taken the position that no church must ever, either in small or large quantities, have endeavored to avoid unkind words and harsh expressions; have abused no one, and feel sure that I have sustained my position from scripture; and yet I am told that the influence is turning against me, that I am doing myself harm, and have been advised to discontinue the work. At the same time, however, others advise me to go ahead; in fact, one brother says if I do quit, he will have no more use for me. Is any one surprised at fog? Bro. Gambrell, what is your advice?

T. C. SCHILLING.

First pray for help, then cry aloud and spare not, and all the more earnestly, because there is so much need of it. And in the meantime give yourself no uneasiness about what people think; it is your business to get them to think right. We have been injuring ourselves with a good many people a long time, but we continue to live, and will live. Better, however, to do right than to live wrong. Go on.—[Ed.]

Low as the grave is, only faith can climb high enough to see beyond it.

could take primary steps, and then at the next session of the Convention we could continue all the efforts of the denomination in the State.

Bro. Gambrell will doubtless lend the columns of the Record, and assist by his own pen, in forwarding so excellent a work.

F. COURTNEY.

THE BAPTIST RECORD.

J. B. GAMBRELL, Editor.
CLINTON, Miss.

JACKSON, MISS.,
THURSDAY, Aug. 26, 1880.

Terms of Subscription.

One copy per year, \$2.00; one copy six months, \$1.00; for any time less than six months, at the rate of five cents a copy; to ministers, \$1.25 a year. Of course, it is understood that the subscriber pays the expense of sending his subscription. If you subscribe through another party, hand him ten cents to pay the expense of forwarding money. No Club rates. No Commission paid.

Honesty.

All men should be honest, whether Christians or not. Christians especially should be honest. Nevertheless all men are not honest. And as the infirmities of the flesh cling to us, even after conversion, it happens that some Christians violate the scripture injunction, "Provide a thing honest in the sight of all men."

There are times when the sin of dishonesty is more prevalent than at other times. There are epidemics of crime—of certain kinds of crime. Dishonesty is one of these. It is a disease which spreads itself, and it is a disease which is not cured by the use of the law. It is a disease which is not cured by the use of the law.

It is not necessary to enlarge upon the disastrous effects of dishonesty upon individual character and upon the public weal. If you are dishonest, you are dishonest. If you are dishonest, you are dishonest. If you are dishonest, you are dishonest.

We believe the pulpit, the churches and the press have been to silent upon this great moral question. The scriptures are not silent upon it; why should we be? When did any of you, our readers, hear a plain, bold, uncompromising sermon on this important question? While we have kept silence, this vice has eaten its way like a cancer into all circles of life.

In many cases our churches have been shorn of their strength by this painted and gilded Delilah, and the cause of Christ is put to shame by a gain saying world. It is time to speak out earnestly. We need a strong, though it be a bitter, tonic to invigorate our moral constitution. It will not be disputed that public sentiment needs toning.

We propose to write a few pieces on the different phases of this subject. Honesty is, we know, a homely subject. There is not much chance for the display of learning or eloquence; but if it is a homely question, it is also a vastly important one. Our purpose is to use our best powers to run some straight furrows; and if we should use a subsoiler, it will only be to improve the fertility of the soil. Our aim is to do good by contributing something toward the moral elevation of the country in this particular.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The editor is holding a meeting at Terry.

"When will we have more letters from Bro. Melvin?"

Bro. Graves is expected at the Jackson Association.

Eld. Matt Lyon, how are you getting along in your parts?

Let us have brief accounts of your meetings, just the facts.

Eld. N. L. Clark is a strong friend to the General Association.

Eld. L. S. Piker is at Port Gibson in a meeting with Bishop Miller.

Dr. Zealy is helping in a meeting at Silver Creek, Pike county.

God bless you for your defense of the Old Landmarks.—W. A. Mason.

"Eld. H. B. Haywood has been in very feeble health for some weeks."

The editor of the Record will now be able to give some attention to his exchanges.

We congratulate Bro. T. J. Bailey and wife. May happiness and prosperity attend her.

Bro. M. T. Martin has been in a good meeting at Hartsville. What about it brother Hall.

One person, Miss Laura Wallace, united with the church at Paulding during the late meeting.

Crops throughout Mississippi promise well; will the people make a thank offering to God?

We would call attention to Bro. Miller's request for the minutes of associations, found in another column.

The news is good from Grenada. We wish brother Montgomery could visit Clinton. Can you brother M. some time?

Eld. L. E. Hall's correspondents will address him at Jacksonville, Kemper county, Miss., instead of Daleville.

The same way financial success charms men, even when the methods employed are dishonest. The object is to lure the ambitious and money-loving along the same disreputable and dangerous way.

The further effort is to lower and demoralize public sentiment in general. When there is an epidemic of murder, even peace-loving citizens cease to look with horror and abhorrence upon the shedding of human blood. Such a time is upon us now.

So little is murder thought of, that the slaying of a human victim makes but little impression upon the public mind. Even timid girls in the vicinity of a fresh murder scarcely feel a tremor of terror when they hear of the deed. This lax sentiment makes way for more murder. Wholesome restraint is removed from men-slayers. In like manner, when financial dishonesty becomes common, and is tolerated in high places, public sentiment is lowered to this standard, and honest people no longer check the dishonest. The out-come is just what we have from center to circumference in this country—an epidemic of dishonesty.

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We are glad of hearing of honest brethren and of the Western Association.—M. G. Turner, Paulding. That is said like a man of sense, a Christian, and a gentleman.

Our South Carolina brethren are trying to deprive Louisiana of one of her best pastors, by calling Eld. Ebbelott, of Mansfield, to a charge in their State.

The colored people are calling for Dr. Melvin to be sent to them as their instructor. We know of no one better qualified to instruct them; but do they wish our abject men?

We hope the General Association will publish a full statement of its work and financial operations, so that we can know what we are doing in the State.

The Executive Board of the General Association meets next Sunday at Newton. Pastor Clark will preside at the meeting. The Lord be with his people.

I feel that we are on the eve of a great forward move in the country.—Jesse Woodall. And Father Wood, all will be found in the front ranks in the forward move.

Differences of opinion will arise among brethren, and they should be discussed; but they should make no difference in the feelings of brethren toward each other. We are all brethren.

On our way home from the East we had the pleasure of attending a very sweet prayer meeting in the Methodist church at Newton. There seems to be a revival among the Methodist brethren at that place.

Quite a number of young men in Jasper county are talking of attending Mississippi College next session. By the way, we have met no strong or friends to the College anywhere than we found in East Mississippi.

There is a dark horse in the race against Bro. Melvin and his friends; the brother desires us to withhold his name for the present, but says he will beat both of these brethren together.

Eld. L. E. Hall is raising a fund to assist Eld. Gunn to go to school. Eld. G. has four churches and six children and cannot go to Clinton, but he can go to a school near home. It is the thing to help him.

"Some Baptists talk as though they would rather be sound than go to Heaven." Soundness is an excellent thing but many who boast most of it have the least of it. A man who drinks whiskey, don't pay his debts, and rides home-made horses is not sound.

"What do you think of Banning's 'Brace'?" From an experience of ten years we think well of it. Every minister who suffers from a dragging down feeling after preaching should have one. You can get one from Eld. J. R. Graves, Memphis, Tenn.

We have ceased to listen to 'evil confidings about tried men until we see some facts.'—R. in Alabama Baptist. Why will some men believe all manner of evil about tried brethren without any proof? Let us all be done with such an evil thing.

Eld. J. F. Christian has been visiting Sardis and Batesville, and the churches at these places would like to have such a Christian to live and labor with them.—E. E. K. He's the only preacher of our acquaintance who has always been a Christian.

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When will some of these good brethren come over and see us? We also state that Bro. Graves does not agree with Bro. Graves, that baptisms administered by ordained ministers, without the presence of a church, are invalid. He believes they are valid, but irregular.—Eld. Gambrell. Not invalid in

This image shows a vertical strip of a document page, likely from a book or manuscript. The paper is heavily aged, discolored, and stained, particularly with dark, irregular marks in the center. The texture appears rough and worn. The strip is narrow, showing only a portion of the original page's width.

THE BAPTIST RECORD.

FAMILY CIRCLE.

CONDUCTED BY

MR. J. H. GAMBRELL.

To My Mother in Heaven.

BY MISS J.

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found and Dinah much better, and sitting up. I asked where Sedley and Joe were.

"I thought they were with you, Miss Sarah Ann. They left the breakfast table and came to see me; then they left with Jane to go up stairs."

"I looked the house through, and through, but no where could I find them; I went to the front door, it was unlocked; I looked out, and the gate was partly ajar; going out to fasten it, I looked down the street, and, oh, terror, I saw them with the nurse, Jane, standing near a crowd watching a monkey dance to the squeaking music of a hand organ. I beckoned to them, but they did not see me, so I ran into the hall and, putting on a hat, walked as fast as my feet would take me to bring my little boys home. I reproached Jane very severely for allowing the children to go on the street, when she knew it was directly against my orders, and also for being angry with the little boys for disobeying me, but did not say anything to them, for I was too much afraid that they had gone near some infected house and the fatal disease was already in their system. Jane's excuse for taking them out was, that they wanted to hear the organ, and had followed it several squares, but they did not go into any house. Poor, ignorant creature, little did she know what evil consequences would follow this act of disobedience. It was not intentional, to harm, for she loved the children devotedly, and ever afterward blamed herself for being the innocent cause of their death."

"How do you know that, my son?" said I.

"Why, mamma, the organ grinder stopped right in front of Mr. Ormsby's and began to play just where the house-drops up, and some one came out of the house and told the organ grinder to stop playing, and then some gentleman brought poor Nellie out of the house in a coffin, and Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby followed it just crying like their hearts would break."

"Oh, my darlings, my poor children, how you always near the coffin!"

"Yes, mamma, we were standing by the gate, and as Mr. Ormsby passed by he noticed us, and said: 'Children, run home quick; this is no place for you.' But we did not go into the house, mamma, not even into the yard; and then the organ man and all of us came this way."

"Little Joe then looked up into my face, and took my hand and pressed it, and said: 'Mamma, we will not die, and leave our poor mamma. We did not go into the house; then added, 'If I die will you put me in a shiny coffin like Nellie's?'"

"Oh, my child, don't talk about it. It was now so much alarmed that I could with difficulty get into the house. I sent for my physician, but of course he could not detect the disease so soon. But it did not take long to develop. Little Joe came to me one evening complaining of a dry feeling in his throat. I examined his throat, and sure enough there were the fatal white spots. When the doctor came he told me not to be alarmed; that he did not think Joe was very sick, and administering some remedy, he left. But Joe's throat grew worse, and he could scarcely swallow; his fever was low, but was continuous, and would not leave him. On the third night after he was taken, as I watched by him, I noticed that Sedley was very restless in his sleep, and seemed to breathe with difficulty. I took the candle and held it over him, and with dismay saw that he, too, was stricken with the anguished malady, for a burning fever had taken possession of him. As I felt his hot little hands he awoke, and a brilliant glow shown in his eyes that I never saw before. I asked if his throat hurt him. He said, 'Very little; but I am so thirsty. I was more alarmed for him because he was taken so suddenly, and not waiting for day. I went forth with Dr. Roy, who, as soon as he had examined Sedley, saw that he had to battle with one of the worst forms of diphtheria."

"My dear mother," said he, 'why did you not send for me sooner? The disease has had at least six hours the start of me. You should have sent for me before dark. Did he not complain then?'"

"No, doctor," said I, 'if I had not been watching with Joe, in all probability I would have known nothing about it until morning.'"

"And then, Mrs. Ormsby, it would have been out of my power to have done him any good; so much depends, in diseases of this kind, on the timing of the medicine; in fact, all depends on it. See how well Joe is doing because you sent for me at once."

"It is because," added I, 'Joe was of a complaining nature. No doubt Sedley fell ill in the afternoon, but he was so patient in suffering, that he did not complain. A time he would not have said that he was sick. All his life, whenever he was sick I have to find it out myself, for he never made a sound. He was only in his unconscious sleep tonight that he showed that he was suffering.'"

"Before dawn I was certain that Sedley could not live. The fever was so fierce, and he could with difficulty speak. These nights and days I wept and watched and prayed by the side of my darling son, but he died in spite of all our efforts to save him. He died at sundown, and with unexpressed grief I watched the remainder of that sorrowful night by the bed of little Joe. About four o'clock in the morning I noticed that he, too, was sinking into the cold embrace of the cruel grave. We had all thought that he would recover, and in our anxiety about Sedley, had taken little notice of him. The doctor was still with me, and I called him—he was sitting in the other room where my dear, dead child lay. We asked Joe if he was hungry or thirsty? Joe little fellow, he could not speak, but his eyes could have spoken. Oh, the day, of that hour! One day, and he was dead, and he was starving to death. He was hungry, oh, so hungry and

thirsty, but could not tell us so, and when we put the cup to his lips could not swallow."

"How long since he has tasted food, Mrs. Ormsby?"

"I do not remember his eating since Sedley was taken. I remember giving him some milk that night, and he called for water once afterwards. I gave it to him, at the same time giving him the throat gargle you left for him; then Sedley took me from him, and thinking Joe out of danger, I left him in charge of aunt Dinah."

"We called her to us and inquired when Joe had eaten anything."

"He won't eat, mistress. I've been trying to make him eat all the time, but everything I puts in his mouth he puts it out again. I would have told you, Miss Sarah, but sometimes doctors won't let sick folks eat, and I thought it was all right in this case."

"Oh, the little sufferer, he wanted nourishment but could not swallow. The doctor then applied various remedies to take away the swelling in the throat, but the destroying angel worked harder than he, and before the day was gone he, too, died in my arms; died as easily as he ever went to sleep, and the two little boys now sleep in one grave, awaiting the resurrection morn."

"Laura, Addie's mother, and Emma, Fred's mother, were with me most of the time, and did all they could to alleviate my suffering. Their children were sent out of the city as soon as the disease made its appearance, and were safe."

"Not till after the death of my last child did I see the death of two more."

"High in my trouble, I knew I did not let the people of God go until the first-born were taken. So I would not part with my 'darlings,' until I was childless and alone in the world. No, not alone, for then when I was left desolate I was taken up to his abode in my heart, and there he has been ever since, never to leave me. The day my two lovely boys, who would have been the light of my old days, were placed under the sod, I forgave fully and freely my uncle, and wrote to him telling him of my troubles. As soon as I had the heart to travel I set out to see him. That morning, as I was waiting at the station, a telegram was handed to me. It was from one of my cousins, bidding me come quickly, for I would see uncle Thomas before he died; he had been fatally wounded, and his hours were numbered. I reached his house an hour or so before he died, and on my knees asked his forgiveness for my past hard feelings, at the same time he asked pardon of me, said that he had unfairly obtained my mother's property, but added that in his will it would all be paid; that her children should not be a cent through him. He said that he had been a great sinner, but that Christ was a still greater Savior, and he believed that he had pardoned him. Uncle Thomas, with the name of Jesus on his lips, died, leaving the hand of one who had withstood her forgiveness for so long."

"My poor uncle received his death wound, so the papers stated, in a difficulty about some property. He and a certain Mr. Day had made a trade, uncle Thomas being the winner, which so incensed Mr. Day that the first time he met uncle Thomas he began firing at him. Of course uncle Thomas fired back. The Sheriff interposed to stop them and was killed. They were near the river, and the river was so close that they were firing at each other, and fired as he fell down the bank; but Mr. Day escaped, and uncle, mortally wounded, was taken home to his distressed family. You can well imagine my feelings on my return to my lonely home. After all this, you see how important it is to your duty when you know what he is. Scarcely had I forgiven my uncle when he was no more."

"Aunt Sarah, it is a wonder you lived through such a complication of sorrow."

"Ah, child, trouble never kills, though it does often craze. The human heart is so elastic that it takes sorrows unnumbered to keep it down, and after a lapse of years when, looking back through the camera of memory, they are so washed by the waters of Lethe, that you scarcely recognize, in the vague troubled dreams as they then appear, the heart-breaking troubles of former years."

"Don't you think that severe troubles weaken the mind?"

"No; when the mind is not deranged by it is strengthened."

"Aunt Sarah," said Amy, 'do you never have those temptations now?'"

"Oh, yes, my child; when one has a haunting sin, it haunts from the cradle to the grave. Those who are weak in the faith are oftenest overcome by it; those who live near the Cross know best how to resist it."

"When the spring time came, and the robins sang in the newly fledged trees, and the bees hummed busily among the flowers, the long talked of pleasure came. Aunt Sarah and Amy and Wilson met once more. I don't know which apologized, but neither one looked disappointed at the meeting. I think that Wilson took it for granted that Amy apologized, and that she took it for granted that he forgave her; for they made friends, and the next week Amy left the city for Willow-farm, where she was to take a small music-lesson, and the city did not agree with her, so she told her friends that I don't think she'll teach many months before, like Ethel, she will be looking out for another teacher to fill her place."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Solomon said, 'Make no friendship with an angry man.' Some one else has given as a reason for this injunction of the wise man, that such a man is uncertain. And no one knows when a little villainous spirit will bite the hand that caresses him, and hence no one is safe from hydrophobia as long as he is around; so a man who gives way to anger, though your friend to-day, may be your foe to-morrow, and the more intimate your friendship has been, the more earnest his enmity will become."

Missionaries and Potato-Bugs.

John Horton's conscience troubled him. In his prayers he had confessed to the Lord's work; but he was not satisfied. He felt uneasy; he was not doing enough for the dear Lord, who had done so much for him.

Just about this time a missionary from Turkey came and preached in the town where John lived, and he went with his father to hear him. He told many things he was interested in, but what he thought of Turkey was looking to America for help. Even the children can help us; they can do something if they will."

Johnnie pondered: "What can I do? He said every boy can do something, but I'm sure I don't know what I can do, unless I can earn some money to send them; but I never earned a penny, and I'm sure I don't know how I can get goods or cattle, or anything. I haven't anything to sell, any way; and I don't have any money to spend—only five cents now and then. I could go without peanuts, but I couldn't make much by that. Well, I'll tell the Lord I don't know, and ask him to show me some way."

"Johnnie," said Mr. Horton, when he came down stairs the next morning for breakfast, "believe those potato-bugs are going to overrun our lot. Tim and I have been trying to pick them off and kill them, but it is hard to work stooping over. I wonder if I couldn't hire some little fellow with quick fingers?"

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